THE BLURB



BLURB

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ART DEPARTMENT

W3FQI 3IM W4JQS BLURB is published by and for the members of Phil-Mont to further the interest of Amateur Radio in general and Hobile Radio in particular. We endeavor to keep the news accurate, interesting, and in a small way educational. Any deviation from this is purely unintentional. Permission is given for quoting or copying from the BLURB provided Credit Line is included. Commercial use not permitted. Subscriptions gladly exchanged with other Sadio Clubs.

DEADLINE

All material for the BLURB must be the hands of W3PXY by the 15th of the Any items for the Trading Post must be received by W3EXY not later than the 15th of the month. Mail Date, Last Thursday of the month.

CLUB OFFICERS 1956

Robert G. Thomas W3020 PRESIDENT VICE PRESIDENT John Muroff W3SAI W3QQH SECRETARY Clinton R. Spencer Jr. W3D\$G TREASURER Ernest Juliani MEETINGS

Town Hall First Monday of the month, Germantown Ave. & Haines Street at 800PM

NET FREQUENCIES

Channel #1-29493kc Channel #3-27000kc Channel #4-50.7mc Channel #2-29626kc 29493 is monitored from - 0630 daily for the benefit of the mobiles the Philadelphia area. NETS

SEN 0730-0830 weekdays "10 on 10", 10AM Sunday. Blarney sessions anytime. Allon Chancel #1

Salesmanship

The abilities represented by the PMRC gang are pretty well diversified. We have some who are skilled at turning out BLURB material; we have diplomats and legal beagels: there are the technically inclined guys who are always willing to give free advice (good and bad); and not to be overlooked are the artists, agitators, hidden transmitter hunters, and comedians, who, in their own special way, generate a high level of activity. While these specialized talents are not possessed by every member, there is one important phase of our operation that is promoted with great enthusiasm by all of us, namely - blowing Phil-Mont's horn. This is accomplished in various ways such as widespread BLURB and film distribution, lots of noise at hamfests, guiding out-of-town mobiles, and occasional press releases. Another opportunity to spread the word occurs when an unsuspecting DX station inadvertently pops on channel 1 and asks, "What's going on? Is this some kind of net?" If he hadn't heard of Phil-Mont before then, chances are he will never forget us after that kind _ of remark, because he is promptly called in rapid order by every one of our gang who is available at the time. After that he usually goes bewilderedly on his way to warn other stations to "watch out for that 'Philmore' bunch"! We sometimes miss a good bet on the publicity angle by not indoctrinating (brain washing, if you prefer these operators with our propogand. This could be accomplished easily by each of our stations mentioning one "Item such as the three-pip break-in system, extensive monitoring of the channel, or availability of the film, when they call him. It will not cut down our fun, it will give the "foreign" operator a chance to write our calls in his log, and it will get our story across, all at the same time. Give it a try, and pass along your ideas on the subject.

W3QZ0

THE LATEST SCOOP - The boys put on their own program at the last meeting with a session on rig hunts. W3VXN led it off with the "standard" tools of trade including a butcher knife for cutting hoagies, if you couldn't find the rig & got hungry, a dime for a call on the land line for help if your car & rig ran out of gas, F. S. Meter, Phones fer keeping ur ears warm, a bottle of antifreeze for the heap, all packaged nicely in a suit case in case your wife gave you your traveling papers. W3NIP, W3DOU, W3YJM & W3QQH followed up the talk with some things they called DF Loops?? --- We sure had a nice turnout - 59 members & guests. --- W3VSU, W3UVL owe W3VXN a free dinner on account of because he has WAS from the home rig -'Twas a contest betwixt 'em. . . . Aaron got the CCO prize (Cellar Clean Out) - the antiquest bunch of burnt out valves you ever did see . . . The BLURB had a distribution of 191 last month . . . W3UVL showed the results of the picture taking party in Fairmount Park. They sure came out fine. There are several plans for distribution. . . . The boys think they found out who the hash is on the freq. when the band is open. The station is believed to be OCB39 Teletype in Peru. Apparently they went on CW when conditions were bad & some of the club members copied their CW. Sign that bunch up fer field day, Chuck . . . There is a plan on to identify the Turnpike bridges for position info in an emergency. Seems like someone got stalled near one of 'em & couldn't identify it . The Naval Aviation Depot (Supply) is celebrating Armed Forces Day May 18th. Call in & identify on the Freq. . . . Boy wat a lot of noise about last month's Pres's message to the flock. You can tell who the windbags are \$\$\$\$ just listen to the comments. PMRC has enuf gas to refurbish the Penna oil fields. 'Tis a good group. . . When the Sec. quits goofin we will print a list of the clubs where the film has been shown . . . Heard on the air, "Time out a minute while I fix Margie's holster" - that's IW's little harmonic. W2HEX - IllMF Len McFord recently returned from 2 yrs duty in Naples Italy & is visiting W3VVS enroute to Olathe Kansas. Len is mobile on 10-20-75. . . W3VVS has a new mobile & hopes to get it installed soon . . like Sue (XYL-YJM) Eunice has had Paul painting the boy's bedroom . . . A prominent visitor showed at the last meeting-W3MXP-we that he was gone some say he is . . . W3UVL is just listnin' - could be the result of the noise on freq. controversy. Anyhoo he is sending SWL cards to all the club. . . W3WNC & W3SAI drive their cars rather than have W2ZAS lead them to a PMRC meeting, in fact they wouldn't take a chance on: 1. W2ZAS/M3 knowing where he is; 2, W2ZAS/M3 knowing how to get there from where he is; 3. W2ZAS/M3's receiver functioning, if at all.

There is a lot of yakin' going on as to who blew up the grain elevator near the Bulletin. Some are accusing W3YFV of trying to eliminate Bulletin competition. Others say W3UVL done It to strum up business for the papers! picture page. We have it on good authority Russ didn't do it - he wouldn't want to eliminate the hand that feeds him, would he? (These rascals are real double dealers - they both are photogs for rival papers in the friendly city . . . The incriminating part of it all, W3QQH & W3QV were asked to call in Russ fer early duty & found he was already there with W3YFV . . . Some of the boys that W3IM lost the weights off his high speed sending machine installed in the car Sunday, but later found it was QRM. It is supposedly the 2nd harmonic from a 10 KW station. Looks like we are in fer trouble & nothing we can do about it. 50 db. down from 10 KW is still a lot of soup . . W3QZO our pres. alias Sam, Rob, Bob, does a swell job chauffering W3IW. We hear IW has something on him . . Robert Muroff says many thanks to all the guys who wished him a speedy recovery (age 7 yrs) The Club trailer has a new 1956 paint job courtesy of W30ZO, W3QQH, W3SAA, W3YJM, W3IW. Wait till Ernie gets the bill! .. The ole man of the mountain Carl W3SGR is back home again. He wishes to one

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and all for the fone patch visit the boys paid him while in the hospital. It was a great morale booster, he says. Carl's \$400 antenna has a crook in it. The "wind" blew so badly over that way it has become dis-re-connected. Seriously, Carl could use a hand from some of the fold who are able to take climbing into the wild blue...

ADDRESSING NEWSPAPERS

Addressing the papers to all youse guys is one of the routines of getting the paper out. Of the many papers we swap with, it is interesting to note the methods used to address the papers. Some use IBM machines, of which some list on gummed paper, other list on the regular paper and apply the glue as pasted on. Many use ditto style addresses, possible addressing machines. Others use regular addressing machines. Of these, some are applied directly and others are applied to a gummed label which is later gummed to the magazine. We believe the Auto-Call is unique in using Teletype tape and printers to produce the addresses. We "play" the tape off on either a Model 19 set or a model 28 Teletype. About every three months, the tape is re-edited, deleting those names and adding those names required. After completion of the printing on gummed tape, the names are cut off the paper tape with a deckle-edge photographic cutter and slapped on the paper. It is the easiest way we know how to get these names on the papers. (At one time, we had the names on magnetic tape, but corrections weren't so easy to make so we went back to the paper tape.)

Auto-Call

To: Phil-Mont Mobile Club

From: ED

Subject: Trip Report to D.C. & subsequent visit to Andy W3NL.

This ED had to make a run into Washington lately on business and took what was supposed to be a short time out to see Andy. ED gave him a call on the land line which brought 4 wheeled service to the door at 5:15 PM with Andy in the drivers seat. And then the gas started to flow. Twas supposed to be a short session on the order of two hours & back to work but one thing added up to another with dinner at Hogates with Bobby (XYL) & Ethel (W3MSU) the swellest pair of gals you would ever want to meet. We can't see how they put up with Andy, but all the gals have that trouble with the wireless Andy eats & sleeps the AutoCall & the results are evidence enuf of a job well done. ED could never figure out how he managed to put together such a fine ham publication, but we see it all now. He works for the Washington Mobile Radio Club as Editor of the paper & anything else he does is for his hobby. Gad we have never seen such a dedicated Ham in all our When you look over his publication next time, make mental note he does everything himself - makeup-typing-cartooning-writing-preparationaddressing-folding-stapling-stamplicking-add collection - the works! He is a glutton for punishment: - but he loves it. He has 3 mimeograph machines with different colors ready to go, special tools, letter guides, 2 typewriters - one with microtype paper etc. etc. He says it is more work to get help on the paper than it is to do it himself. And let me tell you about his YL counterpart who holds up the female end of this here ham business in the "white-washed city". W3MSU Ethel is on the program committee, publications committee, Pres. of the WAYLARC, spelled with a "C", a newly organized club of gals called, if we have it right, Washington Area Young Ladies Amateur Radio Club. She is also an officer in another club (lost our notes). Ethel puts much time in on the paper when needed. Bobby is a 'ham' in everything else but the call. We are sure she derives considerable pleasure out of all the shenanigans plus putting considerable effort behind

the scenes on the paper & in the club. If she does nothing else than put up with Andy, she is worth her weight in gold, but she actually is part (, of the backbone of the cutfit. Andy showed ED a color movie put on by the club which is a takeoff on all the monkey shines hams get into. runs about 15 minutes & has sound. Andy is a gadgeteer from awayback & cooked up a method for perfect synchronism of sound to film using phono records. He revised his method using tape with a neat gimmick that practically syncs in the rotors of the recorder & the movie projector. Needless to say all this crosstalk took more than 2 hours. ED was delivered back to the Raleigh at midnite after an evening with the finest gang you would ever want to meet . . . A few PS's - Andy wants W3IM to make sure & stop to see him. ED came away with a lot of good ideas which we will put into effect as soon as possible. Confidentially Andy makes this ED's efforts look sick.

de/W3PXY

5 - 5 177797 **31 915**757

This ED got quite a charge out of the last Auto Call. ED mentioned W3D\$G's idea of giving cards out to members (addressed to ED) for news. The truth is we have just started it & really haven't gotten into full swing. Andy apparently liked the idea because the last issue had a short note: "In each issue of this month's Auto-Call sent to members is a postal card, all ready addressed to the Editor. PLEASE USE IT!!" This is one fer the books - they scooped us. They don't let any grass grow, that's fer sure:

RADIO HAMS IN CARBON HAVE BANQUET

フェク・フェアングラファックでは、フリテク、では、**無紙供給機能

Co sodeed o The importance of amateur radio operators during emergencies was outlined last night by Melvin Jones, Creamery, Montgomery County, as he addressed the second annual banquet of the Carbon County Amateur Radio Club. [1] (18.31)

Speaking to 65 "ham" operators in the American Legion Post home Jones showed films of the radio amateur in action during the August flood in Monroe and Bucks counties. The film was prepared by amateurs from the Philmont Radio Club of Philadelphia.

Daniel Farren, Lehighton, past president of the club, spoke briefly on the "ham" operator and thanked the members for their cooperation during his term of office.

Slides of the "ham" operator's headquarters, called "ham shacks" were shown by Bert Rex, Lehighton member.

W3DHJ said they really enjoyed the film & expressed sincere gratitude & appreciation - most especially the women who said that for the first time they could understand what was going on when they attended a gathering of

W3SAA is now mobile again after 4 months fixed. He is running a Babcock Mt 5B 30 watt input to a 6146. His receiver is a Gonset Super 6 Converter in a BC set. From W3SAI we have this bit. "Every once in a while the guys complain that stuff in the BLURB isn't quite clear. Well, George, it was figures that if you live 64 years more, you'll see 20 20.

"Just another Phil-Mont service" - W3VXN/m on the Fenna. Turnpike was flagged down by a stranded motorist who was out of gas. Bill W3QV who called Fort Washington Interchange - they dispatched a car with the needed gas. W3AAG payed his toll at Fort Wash. a few moments later and they told him the gas was on the way - Check & double check. de/W3IW 24 hour monitor . . . W3TOZ & W3WNC were sure welcome at the last Publisher's meeting. Thanks a lot, fellers, for the assist. The boys really appreciate it. . . . Please note we have changed Jim Barber's moniker to W3FQI in the carfoonery dept. is a tech. and is on 6 meters with a Gonset Communicator. We are indebted to Jim for the dandy work on the cover this month. The photo is by our illustrious own W3UVL (nobody else wants him) . . . Sunoco must have given raises all around. W3YJM is sporting a new NC 300 and that's a real receiver! . . . We goofed in the last issue. Chas. O'Lone's new call was incorrect in last month's BLURB - it is K6QFI . . . We are sure pleased with the results from the self addressed cards Ernie cooked up. More stuff is coming in every day. Keep the news coming fellows. We find We are getting more choice bits this way.

Will Our Phil-Mont Secretary "Jim Spence" W3QQH Ever Get To Heaven? de/W2ZAS

If our secretary writes a letter - it's too long.

If he sends a postal card - it's too short.

If he doesn't send a notice - he is lazy.

If he attends a committee meeting - he is butting in.

If he stays away - he is a shirker.

If he duns the members for dues - he is insulting.

If he fails to - he is slipping.

If he asks for advice - he is incompetent.

If he does not ask for advice - he is bull headed.

If his reports are complete - they are too long.

If he condenses them - they are incomplete.

If he talks or QSO's on a subject - he is trying to run things.

If he remains quiet - he has lost interest in the meetings.

Ashes to ashes, dust to dust,

If others won't do it, our secretary must.

(All that on a post card - gad)

The BLURB staff has been going around lately with another swell head. recently received the Third ham paper to copy our carfoonery - staff formatswap shop, return mail, stamp idea, mailing, folding etc. etc. They are no slight amount pleased that their efforts are in a small way recarded with such nice resonant feedback . . . The staff is making a special effort to send papers on a swap basis with other clubs. Next month we expect to have a complete list of everyone we swap with . . . We are re-doing "In a Manner of Speaking" this month because of the trouble in the first go-around W3QV directed W3EUD mobile thru the countryside and on the right road toward home 4/15/56 . . . W3ZFW Richboro Pa, is heard on with his new mobile rig handle is George . . W3DOY "Tom" from War ington, Pa. is also sporting a new car rig . . . Shades of Hades, did you guys hear the QRM solid from top to bottom of 10 M Sunday a week ago - 1946-47 was never like that. Great days are on the way - we have our problems with net operation the - it will take a bit doing to solve that one. The teletype can be a blessing in disguise. The other morn it was in there & the band sounded flatter than flat

so ED just for kicks slid down to the bottom of 10 & let out with a yell lo & behold KP4VK comes back - the only sig heard . . . W3DOY have both worked W3VVS from their 160 home rig . . . W6ZSL/mobile 3 on Pa. turnpike was given directions into Howard Johnsons motel at Willow Grove the other day. "Another Philmont Service" . . . Lansing, Michigan monitors 29,610 daily from 0900 to 2100 . . . W8SFA called in to Phila. the other day inquiring bout the gang. Dick almost joined the club before he had to move to Mich . . . Anyone hearing Lansing, Mich. coming in on any band, please notify ED . . . W3NL is sure hopped up about MARS messing around on the 6m band - let us know you 6m fellers what our status is here in Phila. . . . Geo. Hart, W1NJM sent a note - the Public Service Awards of recent discussion are in the mails.

W3SAF has a teletype & is going to put it on the freq. when the music from the south? starts pouring in. It will be interesting to see what gives. Any of you that know of teletypists please do likewise. You boys making with the noise about cost of putting this rag in finished form - lay off, you might end up with the job. If you see what is involved, you will appreciate the problem. Ask Eleanor - it's no fun pounding a typer on a Sat. or Sun. when there are other things to be done. Putting a rag like this to bed every month is no picnic especially against a time schedule that uses weekends like any other days in the week. When we get destitute we can reconsider the problem - let's try it for a while & see what gives.

LEGALITY OF PHONE PATCHES From Auto Call W3NL

Occasionally the proposition of legality of phone patches comes up in the conversation. Right now a lot of talk is going on about phone "taps" rather than patches, but each amounts to about the same thing. We've asked our legal-beagle to look into it for us and we have the following report. It is no more illegal to have a phone patch or a phone tap than it is to have a "still"; it's what you do with the stuff that counts. This is Federal law, the state may have a law that conflicts with this statement. Federal law prohibits the use of information obtained by a phone tap as evidence in a Federal Court. This is the only thing that is prohibited, there's no law against tapping it in the first place. Some states have like laws; others have a law that says you can't tap, BUT, if some guy will admit that he tapped the line and got the information, then it is admissible as evidence.

The telephone company cannot technically install a phone patch as we know it, because no tariff has been filed for such an item. Before the phone company or any other company operating a public monopoly, can install anything, they have to file a tariff showing just what is is they are going to charge how much for. The closest thing to a patch is the "beeper" outlet which puts the "beeps" on the line when it is used. Most phone companies close their eyes to patches because they derive considerable revenue from them; always sooner or later comes the long distance calls. It's only when some guy goes haywire that the phone company does some enforcing. They do this under the "foreign attachments" clause which permits them to remove anything they don't install, and ultimately to deny service if they so desire. Telephone management varies, and the policy is different in various parts of the country. Some are even particular about the voices of their telephone operators, they don't want them on the air.

Many of the boys using phone patches lay themselves wide open to a civil suit based upon the violation of personal privacy which occurs when the operator has the patch on the air when the called phone answers. The

ordinary citizen has a right to assume when he answers his phone that it is an ordinary call and his voice is not being broadcast to the world. One should never put a voice on the air until he has received permission from that voice to put it on the air.

Many people do not like phone patches, either from the operating angle or from the use angle. If you will analyze some of these phone patch conversations you will find that normally the totalemount of information passed during the course of a half-hour is negligible; that this same information can be passed in less than a minutes time. For a busy person, fifteen minutes to pass a simple question and get an answer is a waste of time. If the operator will take the question, ask it on the phone, get the answer and tell the men; it's all over that quick. Adding the other persons voice is of no material advantage. Of course if you (and everyone else has the time) (maybe he's not the editor of a ham publication) then it is fun, but if time is important, a phone patch will sure upset a lot of plans.

At the present time, following the disclosure of the "big" phone tap system in New York, the New York State has appointed a Commission to investigate laws that might be required to control the phone tap business. This Commission has recommended, among other things, legislation that would make wire tapping a felony and in addition would permit recovery of damages by civil suit against the tapper. It is entirely possible that this might serve as a guide for other states, and it might get to be a hazard to have a phone patch.

There are places where phone patches are nice. Quite often this editor has had a call with a long article and we've plastered it on tape to have it played off as it was typed. Also remote-control by phone patch has been used quite a bit.

I am riding along minding my own business, with the receiver on Channel One, when the squelch opens and I am no longer alone. This time it is none other than my old friend, Spanish Russ, whom I do not hear on Philmont these last 90 days - and the reason for this is that three months ago he supposedly gets himself a citation from Frank Charley Charley advising him to cease and desist.

Rumor has it that the gent with the three first names gives Spanish Russ the heave because of certain alleged modes of operation which the R. I. considers to be not in accordance with Moyle.

As I am by preference not a Private Eye type, but rather a Private Ear type, I listen politely to all the rumors about Spanish Russ but do not give comment, as I do not wish to end up in a cemetery in the Phila-Montgomery area and have poetry on my tombstone, although I must say at this time that if Spanish Russ is really guilty of all the different violations that the various rumors claim he is, then Uncle Whiskers must indeed ease him into the Federal cooler for two years at least, making sure that he first pays the admission fee of \$10,000.00.

with this thought in mind I am careful to exchange only signal reports with Spanish Russ as I figure that he will soon enough give me the details of his absence from the airways. But this, I am thinking to myself, may be impossible after all, as the QRM is building up very high due to the lid-flipping that all and sundry are doing when they hear that Spanish Russ is back on ten meters. Characteristic of the boys, however, they quickly edge off and the noise level drops down to a soft hiss, and I am so sure that nobody is going to break in for a quick run-down that I am thinking about offering long odds against this possibility. But the squelch opens again --

You will remember (begins Spanish Russ) that I once tell you that in my young and carefree days I earn a fast buck as skipper for a certain wealthy party who has a very large speedboat and an equally hefty yen for spiritous liquors, which are at the time of telling considered to be very illegal indeed, in spite of the fact that many characters are walking around with their tongues hanging out. As a matter of fact there are some citizens who tell you that if this enforced drought continues much longer, the population of the United States will consist largely of children, as the adults will be in Canada where the fluid refreshment is in adequate supply. In order to prevent this mass exodus my boss has me make frequent trips to Canada to relieve them of their surplus so that they can balance their economy.

QRX-one while I identify this station.

One dark night (continues Spanish Russ) as I am bringing in a mixed cargo of the finest Canadian and Scotch happy-dew, there is a sudden illumination due to powerful searchlights and a few shots whistle across the bow, and before we can jettison the load we are being boarded by the Coast Guard and apprehended in the name of the United States of America. The load is legally hijacked as evidence, although I later hear that not all of it appears in court. Howsomever, in spite of all the pleas on my behalf I am held as an accessory before, during and after the fact even though I swear that I am an innocent victim of circumstances in that I

am swimming around minding my own business when an extra powerful wave washes aboard this particular boat which happens to be passing by at this time. My mouthpiece is Bill the Birdie and while it at first looks like he has the jury convinced of my innocence, the U.S. Attorney is a better actor and I am removed from circulation for no less than three years. On my discharge I learn that the U. S. Attorney is now a Federal judge as a result of my conviction, so I figure that it is all for the good. As a matter of fact, I am seriously considering sending him a telegram congratulating him, when I remember that I do not have even a farthing in my jeans with which to buy a cup of java, so I have to abandon this idea at once. As I am walking down the wrong side of the pike I am sideswiped by a long black car and knocked unconscious for a period of two hours. During this time certain interested parties are being alerted and when I finally regain my senses I am in the house belonging to my old boss, and he seems to be enjoying life even better than before; and the way that he accomplishes this is to set up a chemical distilling company so that he gives employment to certain of his less fortunate brethren, although rumor here and about has it that the company is operating without license and the product itself purports to be a rather volatile liquid commonly termed moonshine.

In a few days when my bruises lose their black and blue coloration I am working for my old boss as the engineer in charge of production at the chemical factory, and due to my efforts we quickly double the output so that there is already talk of expansion and a possible executive partnership. It is during one of our business conferences that the door flings open and a whole platoon of feds comes charging in, and in the general confusion my boss disappears leaving me to explain why the atmosphere in the neighborhood has an aroma of freshly distilled grain alcohol. It is quite obvious that my explanations are inadequate because an hour later I am booked downtown and it is only because of a coincidence that Bill the Birdie arrives and gets me out on a copy of the charge.

When my trial comes up we have as a judge a very kindly old gentleman whom my boss knows for many years, and things are looking very rosy indeed. As a matter of fact it is impossible to find anybody who is willing to wager on a conviction for me, and I am very happy to say the very least. Just when Bill the Birdie stands up to ask the judge to throw the case out by dismissing the charge, the judge slides out of his seat and hits the floor with a dull thud, and while the paper has it that he suffered a heart attack, I later hear that he is so loaded with liquid lunch which my boss sends him to make him happy, that he is unable to sit up straight. Whatever the reason is, the judge is replaced by another, and you must know how unhappy I get when the new judge turns out to be the former U. S. Attorney who knocks my brains in when I am previously convicted, only this time he throws the book at me for five years, and I later hear that he is so successful, that when he runs for Senator and gets in, he is in a few months the head of the new Crime Investigation Committee.

QRX-one while I identify the station.

While I am in the Federal clink this second time (again continues Spanish Russ) I happen to run across a booklet in the prison library which tells you how to become an amateur radio operator. Since there seems to be no gimmick attached to this deal, and in spite of the fact that some of it is apparently written in an incomprehensible language, I study diligently, and when my five years are up I hie myself into the local branch office of the FCC, and

in short order I get myself a license to be a Private Ear. It is not too long after that I run into you and the boys and we seem to get along well enough together to think about some sort of a club, when the idea falls through because we find ourselves in a war. I do not think I ever tell you this, but when the recruiting sergeant asks me my occupation as a civilian, I tell him that I was a bootlegger, and without batting an eye he writes down shoemaker, and I find myself in the Quartermaster Corps in charge of supplies, section footgear, subsection shoes, subsubsection shoelaces, and my work is such t at I have lots of free time. You can imagine that I do not waste it, but engage myself in building a receiver and a transmitter from the excess parts which arrive in my section incorrectly labelled shoelaces. To this day nobody seems to know how this happens, although I must admit to you that I have some very personal friends amongst the guys who are over in the radar section who I make sure get shoes that fit them.

Well, anyway, the war is over and I am back on the air and we get the club started and I am enjoying myself having QSO's with all the Philmont guys and everything is f.b. indeed and I forget my entire past and dream only of a California KW.

QRX-one while I identify the station.

One warm night (resumes Spanish Russ) I am sitting in my car with the windows open and talking away on the frequency while doing a shade under 60, when there is a sudden banshee wail of a siren and I am forced to pull over to the curb. A couple of local gendarmes hop out and in the general confusion I am unable to locate my wallet with my driver's and owner's cards and ham ticket. While it later turns out that my wallet is wedged in the seat cue don, this does not help me presently, and for the third time in my life I am mugged and printed; much to my chagrin Bill the Birdie is out of town, although this later turns out to be a break for me, but before it is over I am really in a sweat. After I am booked I am set up for questioning, but I clam up so thoroughly that even Joe Friday cannot get me to admit to anything, especially since I myself know that there is nothing worse than a speed rap that they can hold me on. However, the chief thinks that the less I say, the more I must know, so in the interests of justice he contacts the FBI in Washington, and before you can ask for a quick run-down I find myself in a plane bound for D.C., and you must know how unhappy I get when you remember that the only flying I ever do is kites when I am a little kid, and I get even unhappier when we land and there is a whole group of photographers taking my picture just like in the old days. And when they hustle me into the committee room, there is the gazabo who does me in two times in a row, and from the look on his phiz and on those of his colleagues, it looks like a sure bet that I will be a three-time loser.

QRX-one while I identify the station.

It is only by luck (concludes Spanish Russ) that I am able to get a word in about ham radio, and as it turns out one of the Senators on the committee has a son who is a KG-1 in Greenland and I handle traffic for him on 15 meters several times, and before you know it the committee adjourns to private chambers with me leading the pack, and a fair-haired boy to say the least. As a matter of fact we get so engrossed in the subject of ham radio, that the committee sends out for a license manual and I start a class going, and the only reason I am away for 90 days is that my old "friend", who is chairman of the group, flunks the novice exam three times before he finally makes it;

And I am glad that WESAI is not listening on the freq. while I tell you all this, because as sure as you're alive he will set it down on paper and tip off the Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club BLURB. 75 and QRT.

VISITORS

W3BFM, W3ZJS, W3ZVK, W3CMI, W3CCS, W3DYP, WNDJM, W3BCY, WNHEX

NEW MOBILES

W3RAC, W3SOO, W1TUV, W5BVL, W3DOY, W3ZFW

CHARGING STORAGE BATTERIES

A potential fire hazard is present when storage batteries are being charged, due to the fact that the chemical reaction taking place during the charging releases hydrogen gas, an explosive substance. Air containing from four to six per cent of this gas forms an explosive mixture which will ignite if a spark is present. Ample ventilation is necessary to keep this concentration below the safe value of three per cent. In order to supply this necessary ventilation, it is desirable that fresh air from the exterior of the building should be brought in to the charging spaces where possible and an exhaust should lead from the charging station to the outside.

Since a certain amount of gas is given off from a battery at all times, flames or sparks of any kind must never be allowed in the vicinity of any storage battery. Extra care is necessary when opening a compartment in which storage batteries have been stored. As a precautionary measure no light switches should be turned on, no electrical connections made or broken until the compartment has been ventilated.

(from USNR Electrons Bulletin 12ND 10-53)

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FOR SALT
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